UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/765,424	01/27/2004	Douglas F. Beaven	beaven01.002	1530

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3623	

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/765,424	BEAVEN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Linda Krisciunas	3623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _30 January 2006_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-11,13, 24-25 and 28-29_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-11,13,24,25,28 and 29_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _January 30, 2006_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This is a FINAL Office Action in response to the applicant's response received

January 30, 2006. A new Examiner has been assigned to this application: Linda

Krisciunas. Claims 1-4, 13, 24-25, and 28-29 were amended. Claims 12, 14-23, 26-27

and 30-36 were canceled. Claims 1-11, 13, 24-25 and 28-29 are pending.

Response to Amendments

2.   The Examiner notes the changes to the drawings, specification and abstract.

These objections are withdrawn.

The Examiner also notes the cancellation of claim 34 and this objection is

withdrawn.

The Examiner notes the change in claim language from perceive to observe in

claims 1, 3-4, 13, and 25. Claim 24 has not been updated. The term observe is still

subjective and non-measurable and therefore render the claims indefinite. The rejection

still stands.

Response to Arguments

3.   The Examiner has fully considered the amendments to the claims and they have

been addressed in the rejections below.

Double Patenting

4.   The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created

doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the

unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent

and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees.   A nonstatutory

obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims

are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct

from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated

by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140

F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29

USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir.

1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422

F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163

USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d)

may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory

double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to

be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of

activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a

terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with

37 CFR 3.73(b).

5.   Claims 1-7 and 10 are provisionally rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory

double patenting over claims 187, 189-190, and 192-196, respectively, of copending

Application No. 09/312,740. This is a provisional double patenting rejection since the

conflicting claims have not yet been patented.

The subject matter claimed in the instant application is fully disclosed in the referenced copending application and would be covered by any patent granted on that copending application since the referenced copending application and the instant application are claiming common subject matter, as follows:

Claim 1 of application 10/765,424 lists multiple hierarchies whereas claim 187 of application 09/312,740 lists hierarchies, but does not expand into multiple hierarchies. The term multiple hierarchies is obvious since the term hierarchies is already taught and a hierarchy contains multiple branching which can be viewed to be one hierarchy or multiple hierarchies.

Claim 2 of application 10/765,424 lists representation of a model entity includes representations of the information and claim 189 of application 09/312,740 lists the same. Claim 2 and 189 are dependent on 1 and 187 respectively. The claims use the same language and are therefore equivalent.

Claim 3 of application 10/765,424 lists a collaborator whereas claim 190 of application 09/312,740 lists a person. A collaborator is a person, therefore the use of a collaborator is obvious in view of the prior teaching of a person.

Claim 4 of application 10/765,424 lists a collaborator whereas claim 192 of application 09/312,740 lists a person. A collaborator is a person, therefore the use of a collaborator is obvious in view of the prior teaching of a person.

Claim 5 of application 10/765,424 lists a collaborator whereas claim 193 of application 09/312,740 lists a person. A collaborator is a person, therefore the use of a collaborator is obvious in view of the prior teaching of a person.

Claim 6 of application 10/765,424 lists the information is a document, claim 194 of application 09/312,740 lists the same. The claims use the same language and are therefore equivalent.

Claim 7 of application 10/765,424 lists a collaborator whereas claim 195 of application 09/312,740 lists a person. A collaborator is a person, therefore the use of a collaborator is obvious in view of the prior teaching of a person.

Claim 10 of application 10/765,424 lists a collaborator whereas claim 196 of application 09/312,740 lists a person. A collaborator is a person, therefore the use of a collaborator is obvious in view of the prior teaching of a person.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7.   Claims 1, 3-4, 13, and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The term "observe" and "perceive" are relative terms which renders the claims indefinite. The specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

9.   Claims 1-11, 13, 24-25 and 28-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Knoth (Knoth, "Tools for a Collaborative World, Computer-Aided

Engineering, April 1997).

As per claim 1, Knoth teaches a processor which has access to a representation

of a model of the activity, the model including model entities, the model entities being in

hierarchical relationships one with another, the hierarchical relationships including a first

hierarchy and a second hierarchy, the first hierarchy neither containing not being

contained in the second hierarchy, the second hierarchy including a model entity that

also belongs to the first hierarchy, and the representation including representations of

the model entities and of the hierarchical relationships, the form of the model being

defined by the collaborators and the representations of the model entities providing

access to information relating to the activity((Para 7-9 and 14-16, Knoth teaches holding

a conference over the Internet in real time is a concept the whole design team can

partake in the comfort of their own offices. With CAD conferencing software that works

over the Internet, team members can see 3D designs posted and manipulated on-line in

real time or by using a Web browser such as Netscape Navigator. Over the Internet,

participants in the conference are supplied with various viewing and navigational tools

through the simple and easy-to-use interface of the product that resembles a flight

navigational panel. To start a conference, the conference coordinator executes

LOOK>>IN on a UNIX workstation and loads a CAD file in a native CAD file format onto

the server. As participants connect to the server, the 3D model appears on their

monitors in the built-in interface of LOOK>>IN. Participants watch the changes being

made as the coordinator zooms in, rotates, and sketches a markup of the model on the

screen. Control of the screen can be switched between the coordinator and the

participants. The concept of shared workspace has the potential to revolutionize the

way design teams collaborate on projects. It creates easy and simultaneous access to

a common space where multiple users are able to work on a design at the same time.

A shared-workspace environment enables engineers to collaborate with each other and

access a central database with information on what everyone else is doing on the

project. The Examiner interprets a processor is enclosed in the computer systems used

that allow access to information (CAD file) that represents the 3D design (model).

Hierarchical relationships can be noted in the figure on page 47. CAD programs such as

those noted (Autodesk, Pro/Engineer etc) are known to contain hierarchy trees for

components and subassemblies that are structures in a hierarchical relationship.

Components in one subassembly may be used in multiple subassemblies and would

therefore be part of various hierarchies, while those hierarchies remain distinct from

each other.); and an interface to the system for the collaborators, the interface being

provided by the processor and the interface permitting a collaborator to observe and

modify the model entities and their hierarchical relationships and to observe and modify

the information to which the representation of the model entities provide access (Para 7-

9 and 14-16, Knoth teaches holding a conference over the Internet in real time is a

concept the whole design team can partake in the comfort of their own offices. With

CAD conferencing software that works over the Internet, team members can see 3D

designs posted and manipulated on-line in real time or by using a Web browser such as

Netscape Navigator. Over the Internet, participants in the conference are supplied with

various viewing and navigational tools through the simple and easy-to-use interface of

the product that resembles a flight navigational panel. To start a conference, the

conference coordinator executes LOOK>>IN on a UNIX workstation and loads a CAD

file in a native CAD file format onto the server. As participants connect to the server,

the 3D model appears on their monitors in the built-in interface of LOOK>>IN.

Participants watch the changes being made as the coordinator zooms in, rotates, and

sketches a markup of the model on the screen. Control of the screen can be switched

between the coordinator and the participants. The concept of shared workspace has

the potential to revolutionize the way design teams collaborate on projects. It creates

easy and simultaneous access to a common space where multiple users are able to

work on a design at the same time. A shared-workspace environment enables

engineers to collaborate with each other and access a central database with information

on what everyone else is doing on the project. The Examiner interprets a processor is

enclosed in the computer systems used that allow access to information (CAD file) that

represents the 3D design (model).).

As per claim 2, Knoth teaches the representation of the model entity includes

representations of the information (Para 9 and 14, Knoth teaches as participants

connect to the server, the 3D model appears on their monitors in the built-in interface of

LOOK>>IN. With this technology, multiple engineers at various locations can discuss

data and alter the same CAD design through the network – either over the Internet or

through an internal network – simultaneously.).

As per claim 3, Knoth teaches the interface further permits a collaborator to

observe the model entities as sorted according to values of the included representations

of the information (Para 21, Knoth teaches through a simple graphical interface, the

software prompts the user with attributes of parts that are stored in a database of

classes and subclasses. As the user clicks on the appropriate attributes, the system

narrows down prompts until the correct part is ether selected or the user is notified that

the part doesn't exist. The examiner interprets attributes to be values and the process

of narrowing down to be sorting.).

As per claim 4, Knoth teaches the model further includes representations of

further information (Para 22, Knoth teaches in addition to locating part information, the

product tracks all aspects of the design process – such as file and job information, 3D

previewing of IGES and STL data, and viewing of 2D information on a Whiteboard – all

through the Netscape Navigator interface.); and the interface permits the collaborator to

observe how the further information is related to the model entity and to observe the

further information (Para 22, Knoth teaches in addition to locating part information, the

product tracks all aspects of the design process – such as file and job information, 3D

previewing of IGES and STL data, and viewing of 2D information on a Whiteboard – all

through the Netscape Navigator interface. A hierarchical job tree displays the status of

all jobs and files; a job log keeps track of every activity – files that were uploaded, downloaded, previewed, updated, transitions from a "new" job to "in queue," "in process," or "complete"; and a screen shows all the message correspondence back and forth.   The examiner interprets the multi-screen display allows the collaborator to observe how the information is related.).

As per claim 5, Knoth teaches the interface further permits the collaborator to modify the further information (Para 7-8, 15-16 and 22, Knoth teaches holding a conference over the Internet in real time is a concept the whole design team can partake in the comfort of their own offices. With CAD conferencing software that works over the Internet, team members can see 3D designs posted and manipulated on-line in real time or by using a Web browser such as Netscape Navigator. Over the Internet, participants in the conference are supplied with various viewing and navigational tools through the simple and easy-to-use interface of the product that resembles a flight navigational panel. It also created easy and simultaneous access to a common space where multiple users are able to work on a design at the same time. A shared-workspace environment enables engineers to collaborate with each other and access a central database with information on what everyone else is doing on the project. A hierarchical job tree displays the status of all jobs and files; a job log keeps track of every activity – files that were uploaded, downloaded, previewed, updated, transitions from a "new" job to "in queue," "in process," or "complete"; and a screen shows all the message correspondence back and forth.).

As per claim 6, Knoth teaches the further information is a document that is accessible to the system (Para 22, Knoth teaches a hierarchical job tree displays the status of all jobs and files; a job log keeps track of every activity – files that were uploaded, downloaded, previewed, updated, transitions from a "new" job to "in queue," "in process," or "complete"; and a screen shows all the message correspondence back and forth. The examiner interprets files to be documents.).

As per claim 7, Knoth teaches the further information is a message sent to the collaborator by another collaborator (Para 22, Knoth teaches a screen shows all the message correspondence back and forth.).

As per claim 8, Knoth teaches the further information is an alert that indicates a change in the model that is relevant to the collaborator (Para 22, Knoth teaches a hierarchical job tree displays the status of all jobs and files; a job log keeps track of every activity – files that were uploaded, downloaded, previewed, updated, transitions from a "new" job to "in queue," "in process," or "complete". The examiner interprets displaying a status to be "alert".).

As per claim 9, Knoth teaches the further information is a reminder generated by the system for the collaborator (Para 21, Knoth teaches that through a simple graphical interface, the software prompts the user with attributes of parts that are stored in a database of classes and subclasses.).

As per claim 10, Knoth teaches the further information is a discussion concerning the model among the collaborators (Para 13 and 22, Knoth teaches on the screen, in separate Windows, are live video and audio pictures of all the other team members,

making a truly interactive environment. Each person is assigned a unique cursor such as a star or squiggle that identifies their remarks and differentiates them for the others. A screen shows all the message correspondence back and forth.).

As per claim 11, Knoth teaches the representation of the collaborator-defined model of the activity permits the model to be viewed in a plurality of ways (Para 7-9, Knoth teaches that with CAD conferencing software that works over the Internet, team members can see 3D designs posted and manipulated on-line in real time or by using a Web browser such as Netscape Navigator. Over the Internet, participants in the conference are supplied with various viewing and navigational tools through the simple and easy-to-use interface of the product that resembles a flight navigational panel. To start a conference, the conference coordinator executes LOOK>>IN on a UNIX workstation and loads a CAD file in a native CAD file format onto the server. As participants connect to the server, the 3D model appears on their monitors in the built-in interface of LOOK>>IN. Participants watch the changes being made as the coordinator zooms in, rotates, and sketches a markup of the model on the screen.); and the interface permits the model to be viewed according to the plurality of ways (Para 7-9, Knoth teaches that with CAD conferencing software that works over the Internet, team members can see 3D designs posted and manipulated on-line in real time or by using a Web browser such as Netscape Navigator. Over the Internet, participants in the conference are supplied with various viewing and navigational tools through the simple and easy-to-use interface of the product that resembles a flight navigational panel.).

As per claim 13, Knoth teaches there is a plurality of types of model entities (p. 47 "Engineering Publishing" and Figure "Baring it all", Knoth teaches Pro/WEB PUBLISH is a Web interface that supports the export of Pro/ENIGNEER assembly process plans and assemblies to standard Web pages using HTML, VRML, CGM, and JPEG formats and Java applets. It basically takes all of the information from the drawing and automatically formats the text, graphics, parts list, and instructions required for method sheets, enabling users to view the data over the Web or intranets with any standard browser. The examiner interprets text, graphics, parts list, and instructions to be a plurality of types of model entities.); a representation of a model entity specifies the represented model entity's type (p. 47 "Engineering Publishing" and Figure "Baring it all", Knoth teaches Pro/WEB PUBLISH is a Web interface that supports the export of Pro/ENIGNEER assembly process plans and assemblies to standard Web pages using HTML, VRML, CGM, and JPEG formats and Java applets. It basically takes all of the information from the drawing and automatically formats the text, graphics, parts list, and instructions required for method sheets, enabling users to view the data over the Web or intranets with any standard browser. The examiner interprets formats, i.e., HTML, VRML, CGM, and JPEG, specifies the represented model entity's type.); and the interface permits the collaborator to observe the type of a model entity (p. 47 "Engineering Publishing" and Figure "Baring it all", Knoth teaches Pro/WEB PUBLISH is a Web interface that supports the export of Pro/ENIGNEER assembly process plans and assemblies to standard Web pages using HTML, VRML, CGM, and JPEG formats and Java applets. It basically takes all of the information from the drawing and

automatically formats the text, graphics, parts list, and instructions required for method sheets, enabling users to view the data over the Web or intranets with any standard browser.).

As per claim 24, Knoth teaches there is a plurality of types of model entities (p. 47 "Engineering Publishing" and Figure "Baring it all", Knoth teaches Pro/WEB PUBLISH is a Web interface that supports the export of Pro/ENIGNEER assembly process plans and assemblies to standard Web pages using HTML, VRML, CGM, and JPEG formats and Java applets. It basically takes all of the information from the drawing and automatically formats the text, graphics, parts list, and instructions required for method sheets, enabling users to view the data over the Web or intranets with any standard browser. The examiner interprets text, graphics, parts list, and instructions to be a plurality of types of model entities.); a representation of a model entity specifies the represented model entity's type (p. 47 "Engineering Publishing" and Figure "Baring it all", Knoth teaches Pro/WEB PUBLISH is a Web interface that supports the export of Pro/ENIGNEER assembly process plans and assemblies to standard Web pages using HTML, VRML, CGM, and JPEG formats and Java applets. It basically takes all of the information from the drawing and automatically formats the text, graphics, parts list, and instructions required for method sheets, enabling users to view the data over the Web or intranets with any standard browser. The examiner interprets formats, i.e., HTML, VRML, CGM, and JPEG, specifies the represented model entity's type.); and the interface permits the collaborator to perceive the type of a model entity (p. 47 "Engineering Publishing" and Figure "Baring it all", Knoth teaches Pro/WEB PUBLISH is

a Web interface that supports the export of Pro/ENIGNEER assembly process plans

and assemblies to standard Web pages using HTML, VRML, CGM, and JPEG formats

and Java applets. It basically takes all of the information from the drawing and

automatically formats the text, graphics, parts list, and instructions required for method

sheets, enabling users to view the data over the Web or intranets with any standard

browser.); and a related representation of further information may be related to a

representation of a model entity of any type (Para 22, Knoth in addition to locating part

information, the product tracks tracking all aspects of the design process – such as file

and job information, 3D previewing of IGES and STL data, and viewing of 2D

information on a Whiteboard – all through the Netscape Navigator interface. A

hierarchical job tree displays the status of all jobs and files; a job log keeps track of

every activity – files that were uploaded, downloaded, previewed, updated, transitions

from a "new" job to "in queue," "in process," or "complete"; and a screen shows all the

message correspondence back and forth. The examiner interprets the multi-screen

display allows the collaborator to observe how the information is related.).

As per claim 25, Knoth teaches the collaborators have different access privileges

with regard to particular ones of the model entities (Para 15, Knoth teaches controlled

connections between users over the Internets and intranets. Authorization tools give

certain users access to the designs and the right to read, modify, and use different parts

of the product.); and the interface determines what a collaborator observes of the model

entities according to the collaborator's access privileges (Para 15, Knoth teaches

authorization tools give certain users access to the designs and the right to read, modify, and use different parts of the product.).

As per claim 28, Knoth teaches a plurality of the first hierarchies, one first hierarchy of the plurality neither containing nor being contained in another first hierarchy of the plurality; and the second hierarchy includes model entities from different ones of the first hierarchies (Hierarchical relationships can be noted in the figure on page 47. CAD programs such as those noted (Autodesk, Pro/Engineer etc) are known to contain hierarchy trees for components and subassemblies that are structures in a hierarchical relationship. Components in one subassembly may be used in multiple subassemblies and would therefore be part of various hierarchies, while those hierarchies remain distinct from each other.).

As per claim 29, Knoth teaches there is a plurality of the second hierarchies, one second hierarchy of the plurality neither containing nor being contained in another second hierarchy of the plurality; and a model entity may belong to more than one of the second hierarchies (Hierarchical relationships can be noted in the figure on page 47. CAD programs such as those noted (Autodesk, Pro/Engineer etc) are known to contain hierarchy trees for components and subassemblies that are structures in a hierarchical relationship. Components in one subassembly may be used in multiple subassemblies and would therefore be part of various hierarchies, while those hierarchies remain distinct from each other.).

Conclusion

10.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

11.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Linda Krisciunas whose telephone number is 571-272-

6931. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 6:30 am to

3:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Tariq Hafiz can be reached on 571-272-6729. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LMK

LMK

February 27, 2006

TARIQ R. HAFIZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600